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over the waste places of the North American Continent, the other over the vast expanses of northern Asia. This is greatly to be regretted. For Mr. Morris's description is always so interesting, and the work of Russia and, particularly, of the United States has been so important, that the reader cannot refrain from wishing that the development of the colonial system of the latter country — for such in reality is our system of territorial government — might have been treated in the same intelligent and impartial way in which the work of the other colonizing nations has been treated.

No one, however, can close Mr. Morris's book without feeling a deep sense of obligation to its author, and without appreciation of the vast amount of patient and laborious investigation which Mr. Morris has brought to his subject. The exhaustive bibliography which is appended to his work and the continual marginal references alone must convince his readers that he has made a conscientious endeavor to get at all available sources of information. His book will unquestionably take its place among the few standard works on the subject of colonization, and will be of great help to his countrymen in their endeavors to solve the most important problem which has been presented to them since they solved the question of national unity.

FRANK J. GOODNOW.

A History of the People of the United States, from the Revolution to the Civil War. By JOHN BACH MCMASTER. Vol. V. New York, D. Appleton & Co., 1900. — xiv, 577 pp.

The fifth volume of Professor McMaster's *History* differs to a considerable extent from those which have preceded it. The period covered is from 1821 to 1830: that is, it includes the second administration of Monroe, the administration of John Quincy Adams and the beginning of Jackson's term. Yet only the third chapter, with parts of the first and second, gives anything like a connected account of the events of Monroe's second term; while the last three chapters tell the history of the years 1825-30. The rest of the volume, two-thirds of the whole, is a series of monographs upon the social, intellectual, economic and political conditions of the time.

After reading the book, one retains a somewhat confused but more or less valuable series of impressions of the life of the people, of their ideas on various subjects and of the economic advancement of the time; but any complete picture of the whole, or any presentation of the subject that brings out clearly the significant features

of the period and shows the relations of things and events, is not to be had. It is in this particular that the most serious criticism of Professor McMaster's work should be made. Is this because the main lines of the history are lost in a confusing multiplicity of details, or does the author himself fail in a comprehensive grasp of his subject?

When the first volume of this history was published, in 1883, it was announced that the work was to be completed in five volumes. In 1895 this number was increased to six, and the title-page of the present volume reads "in seven volumes." The history has now been brought down to the year 1830. If five volumes have been required to cover the period from 1783 to 1830, is it probable that two volumes will be sufficient for the three decades that still remain, especially if we take into account the increasing complexity of the industrial and economic conditions, and the important political and social differences that culminated in the Civil War? The very material that Professor McMaster so largely relies upon, newspapers and public documents, — even if he continues to neglect such valuable material as biographies and memoirs, — increases rather than diminishes in the period which follows, and would seem to require a fuller rather than a more contracted treatment. What will the author do? Will he announce later that still another volume has been found necessary, or will he conclude that, since the appearance of the masterly *History of the United States since the Compromise of 1850*, by Mr. Rhodes, there is no reason for continuing his history beyond the date of this later work? Professor McMaster's miscalculation as to the bulk of his work tends to confirm the impression created by its content, that he does not strive to adjust the relative significance of events, and that to him "all facts look alike."

The present volume deals with a period for which we have no other history of importance. But it is not likely that this work will deter others from attempting to cover the same years. The early troubles in Texas, the efforts for the suppression of the slave trade, the Monroe Doctrine, the Oregon question, the disputes with England over the boundaries of Maine and Oregon and over the West Indian trade, the Panama Congress, and the elections of 1824 and 1828 are the principal subjects treated in the first three and last three chapters of this volume. A separate chapter is devoted to a valuable account of the protective tariffs of 1824 and 1828. The period is not one which is crowded with important events, and at first sight it would seem as if all that was necessary had been included. But

when we remember the important personalities of that time, and how much of history then and later is only to be interpreted by the influence of those men and their relations with one another, — subjects which are inadequately treated, if at all, — it will be seen that Professor McMaster's work leaves much to be desired.

The rest of the volume, as already stated, is in reality a series of monographs. The first of these is in Chapter XLI, on the Monroe Doctrine. Admitting the importance of that doctrine in our history, it may well be doubted whether so full an account of the European and South American conditions as is given here is altogether desirable. Certainly an exception may be taken to the space that is devoted to distinguishing between the Holy Alliance and the quadruple alliance of the Powers. In all this there is nothing new: a single reference, for example, to Andrews's *Historical Development of Modern Europe* would have been sufficient. And especially does one resent this show of learning, because the author himself ignores the distinction upon which he has laid so much emphasis, again and again using the term "Holy Alliance" just as all other historians have used it, for the sake of convenience.

Similarly, one objects to the treatment in Chapter XLVIII of the sharp criticisms of the United States that appeared in the British periodicals. If these criticisms were "of little value," as the whole tenor of the chapter implies, why devote so much space to them? But if they have their value, as many of us are inclined to believe, is this the best method of presenting them to the reader? That Professor McMaster did not always take so depreciatory a view of these criticisms appears from his first volume, where, in citing a part of the same article by Sydney Smith in the *Edinburgh Review* of 1820, to which in this chapter he devotes two pages, he prefaces the citation with the remark: "And his taunts were none the less galling because they were true."

The chapter which precedes, entitled "Early Literature," and the two chapters which follow, the one on "The Common School" and the other on "Political Ideas" in the first half century, although in a way admirable treatises on their respective subjects, seem to be unnecessary and somewhat out of place in this connection.

In order that anything like a complete sketch may be given of these various subjects, the author has found it necessary to repeat much that has already been said in previous volumes, and even to go farther afield and gather up the threads of the past history of the particular topics. It has thus come about that a large part of the

present volume does not relate to the period which is nominally covered. In the first eleven chapters one-third of the dates which are given at the top of the pages are antecedent to that period. And the chronological leapings to and fro are very hard to follow. For example, the dates at the top of pages 27-31 run as follows: 1824, 1796, 1815, 1814. Nor is this an extreme instance.

The three remaining chapters, XLIII, XLIV and XLV, on "Socialistic and Labor Reforms," "State of the Country from 1825 to 1829" and "The Negro Problem," are the best in the book. As the titles indicate, they approach more nearly to what is the real subject of Professor McMaster's work—that is, the history of the people of the United States. They describe the conditions of the times, how the people lived and what they were interested in. We may observe, however, the same faults that every critic of our author has noted since the publication of his first volume. The most heterogeneous subjects are treated in each chapter with lightning-like transitions, that irresistibly suggest "The Walrus and the Carpenter":

The time has come, the Walrus said,
To talk of many things,
Of shoes — and ships — and sealing wax —
Of cabbages — and kings.

But if the same faults that were noticeable in the earlier volumes are here, it is only fair to say that the same virtues that the earlier volumes show are also still to be found. In spite of the lack of perspective, the confusion of dates and the multiplicity of subjects, the author's manner is fascinating in its interest; and from his kaleidoscopic pictures the reader obtains an impression of the conditions of the times that few, if any other, historians have been able to give. This is apparently the first object that Professor McMaster has had in view, and in justice to him it must be said that he has succeeded wonderfully well.

MAX FARRAND.

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Bismarck and the Foundation of the German Empire. By JAMES WYCLIFFE HEADLAM. (Heroes of the Nations Series.) New York and London, G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1899.—x, 463 pp.

This volume is commendable from several points of view. It is an excellent account of the subject, as the best English opinion regards it; it is quite accurate; and it is readable. The book is of convenient form; paper and print are fair; and the illustrations are